

Census Information Center Program Fact Sheet



What Is the Census Information Center (CIC) Program?

- The CIC Program is the community-based component of the Census Bureau's Data Dissemination Network. While census data are readily available on the Census Bureau's web site, in our 12 permanent Regional Offices, 1,400 Federal Depository Libraries, and 1,800 state and local government agencies participating in the State Data Center Program, the CICs provide access to local communities that might not have access through these traditional channels.

Easy Access to Data

- CICs provide relevant data, statistics, and reports that data users with Internet access might have difficulty finding or interactively creating from other sources.
- CICs package census data in ways (e.g., fact sheets, briefs) that make the data and its implications accessible to those who might have difficulty finding the right information or drawing relevant implications unassisted.

Relevant Data

- CICs add value to data, making it more meaningful to communities that need it. They also help people find data that are appropriate to answer their questions.

Data Application

- CICs have applied census data in areas such as: program planning, needs assessment, defining geographic service areas and scope of services, program evaluation, allocating funds, policy development, measuring the impact of policy, defining disenfranchised populations, developing new business enterprises, conducting race/ethnic related research, defining target markets, segmenting markets, and conducting market research.

Why Should You Participate?

- CIC participants receive Census data products at no cost. These products

include but are not limited to printed reports, CD-ROM products, Internet-based products, subscriptions, catalogs, guides, statistical compendia, indexes, maps, mapping databases, and other reference materials.

- CICs receive easy access to Census Bureau information and early notification of report and data releases.
- CICs receive training and technical support from Census Bureau experts and training and instruction on the use of the Census Bureau's web site and Internet delivery system, the American Fact Finder.

Who Is Eligible to Participate?

- The Census Bureau anticipates adding to the CIC Program up to 60 national nonprofit organizations that provide assistance to underserved populations. Some regional and local nonprofit organizations representing smaller population groups like American Indians and Alaska Natives and those representing minority serving institutions and local minority chambers of commerce are also eligible. Some types of organizations we are seeking to include are, but not limited to, minority-serving colleges and universities, minority chambers of commerce; civil rights, social justice, and social service groups; minority think tanks, research organizations; and organizations serving rural, children, and youth populations.

Who Are the Current Participants?

- The National Urban League, the National Council of La Raza, the William C. Velasquez Institute, the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum, and the Native American Public Telecommunications are currently participating.

How You Can Apply

- Contact the Customer Liaison Office of the U.S. Census Bureau on 301-457-1305 for more details. Or check out the Census Bureau's web site at www.census.gov/clo/www/clo.html for more information on the CIC Program.